

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TUNIS 00049 050909Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 /031 W  
-----073117 050933Z /23

R 050817Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO USDOC WASHDC  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9442  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMCONSUL MONTREAL  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS TUNIS 0049

ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BEXP, ELTN, TS  
SUBJ: CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH SPEED URBAN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM  
FOR GREATER TUNIS

1. DURING RECENT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON 1978 BUDGET,  
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS ABDELHAMID SASSI ANNOUNCED  
THAT STUDY ON CONSTRUCTION OF FIRST PHASE OF MODERN HIGH SPEED  
URBAN RAIL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WAS COMPLETED AND THAT IN-  
TERNATIONAL TENDER WOULD BE ISSUED IN FIRST HALF OF 1978.  
COST OF THIS PHASE ESTIMATED AT 50 MILLION TUNISIAN DINARS  
(1 TD EQUALS \$2.48).

2. EMBASSY OFFICERS MET WITH M'HAMED ALI BOUNEMRA, DIRECTOR  
OF EXPLOITATION OF SOCIETE NATIONALE DES TRANSPORTS (SNT),  
STATE COMPANY RESPONSIBLE FOR URBAN, SUBURBAN AND INTER-  
CITY MASS ROAD TRANSPORTATION, WHICH ALSO WILL BE IN CHARGE  
OF METRO PROJECT. HE INFORMED US THAT STUDY WAS MADE BY  
FRENCH FIRM OF SETEC INTERNATIONAL, TOUR GAMA D, 58 QUAI  
DE LA RAPEE, 75583 PARIS CEDEX 12. SNT WILL REQUIRE  
SUPPLIER CREDIT FINANCING FOR PROJECT. SO FAR, ONLY  
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CANADIAN "GROUPE LAVALIN", OF MONTREAL, CANADA, (HEADED  
BY CLAUDE ROULEAU, FORMER CANADIAN CABINET MINISTER) HAS  
EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FINANCING AND CONSTRUCTING THE TUNIS  
METRO. AS YET, THERE IS NO COMMITMENT ON EITHER SIDE.

3. COMPLETE SYSTEM WILL BE 30 KILOMETERS LONG AND WILL  
CONNECT THREE SUBURBS WITH DOWNTOWN TUNIS, I.E., DEN DEN

(WEST); BIR KASSAA (SOUTH), AND ARIANA (NORTH WEST).  
ONLY SMALL PORTION OF LINE WILL BE UNDERGROUND; REST WILL BE  
AT STREET LEVEL ON RIGHT OF WAY EXCLUSIVELY RESERVED FOR  
METRO SYSTEM'S TRAFFIC.

4. EMBASSY WILL INFORM COMMERCE AS SOON AS TENDER IS ISSUED.  
MULCAHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, TRANSPORTATION, URBAN TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TUNIS00049  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3821260  
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**Subject:** CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH SPEED URBAN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM FOR GREATER TUNIS  
**TAGS:** BEXP, ELTN, TS  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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